Amendments to the Specification:

Please insert the following title after the main title and before the first paragraph on page 1:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

Please insert the following title before the first full paragraph on page 1:

--BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Please amend the last full paragraph on page 5 to read as follows:

Further preferred embodiments or the inventive system become apparent to the skilled artisan especially by ~~the claims 10 to 15 and~~ the following detailed description of the invention. This is especially with respect to the inventive system being implemented in a single-ear hearing aid device or in a binaural hearing aid system.

Please insert the following title before the first line on page 6:

--BRIEF DESCRPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--

Please insert the following title before the paragraph beginning "In Fig. 1 there are schematically..." on page 6, at line 21:

--DETAILED DESCRPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION--

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method for analyzing an acoustical environment comprising acoustical sources located in respective angular directions and at respective radial distances with respect to at least two reception locations, said method comprising the steps of:

- registering acoustical signals at said at least two reception locations mutually distant by a given reception distance and generating at least two respective first electric signals representing said acoustical signals;
- calculating electronically, from said first electric signals, at least one of the radial distances of sources of acoustical signals in said acoustical environment with respect to at least one of said reception locations, thereby generating a distance signal;
- amplitude filtering said distance signal, thereby generating a patterned distance signal;
- weighing a signal dependent from at least one of said first signals by said patterned distance signal, thereby generating an output signal representing said acoustical signals from sources distributed in said environment within a radial-distance pattern.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising performing said calculating according to

$$r_1 = \frac{|d|\rangle|S_2|\langle}{\rangle|S_1|\langle - \rangle|S_2|\langle}$$

wherein ~~there stands~~:

r_1: ~~for~~ represents a shorter distance of the at least two distances from the at least two locations to an acoustical signal source;

$|d|$: represents a magnitude of the difference of the distances between said at least two locations and said acoustical signal source;

$\rangle|S_1|\langle$: represents ~~representing~~ a first acoustical signal as registered at said one of said at least two locations with said shorter distance from said acoustical signal source, taken its absolute value and averaged over a predetermined amount of time T; and

$\rangle|S_2|\langle$: represents ~~representing~~ a second acoustical signal as registered at the second location with a larger distance from said acoustical signal source, taken its absolute value and averaged over the predetermined amount of time T.

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 or 2, wherein said amplitude filtering is performed by means of at least one band-pass amplitude filtering, passing amplitude values within a predetermined amplitude band.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, thereby generating said signal dependent from said first electric signals by weighing said first electric signals in dependency under which spatial angle the respective acoustical signals impinge at said at least two reception locations.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of performing said amplitude filtering with an adjustable filter characteristic.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of performing said registering with at least two microphones of a hearing aid apparatus and/or by at least two microphones, each one of the microphones of a binaural hearing aid system.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of generating said first electric signals as digital signals.

8. (original) The method of claim 7, further comprising the step of generating said first electric signals as time to frequency domain converted signal.

9. (original) A system for analyzing an acoustical environment comprising:

at least two acoustical to electrical converters mutually distant by a predetermined distance and generating respective first electric output signals at at least two outputs of said converters;

a calculating unit, the inputs thereof being operationally connected to said outputs of said converters and generating at an output a signal which is representative of a distance of an acoustical source in said environment with respect to one of said acoustical to electrical converters;

an amplitude filter unit with an input operationally connected to the output of said calculation unit and generating at an output an output signal which is dependent from a signal to the input of said amplitude filter unit

weighed by a function which is dependent from the amplitude of said input signal;

a weighing unit with at least two inputs, one thereof being operationally connected to the output of said amplitude filter unit and the second input thereof being operationally connected to at least one of said outputs of said converters.

10. (original) The system of claim 9, said at least two acoustical to electrical converters being mounted on a single hearing aid apparatus or being mounted to two hearing aid apparatuses of a binaural hearing aid apparatus set.

11. (original) The system of claim 9 or 10, wherein said first electric output signals are led to respective analogue to digital converters and time domain to frequency domain converters before applied to said calculating unit.

12. (previously presented) The system of claim 9, wherein said amplitude filter unit has a band-pass characteristic.

13. (previously presented) The system of claim 9, the amplitude transfer characteristic of said amplitude filter being adjustable.

14. (previously presented) The system of claim 9, wherein said at least two outputs of said converters are operationally connected to a beam former unit, an output of said beam former unit being operationally connected to said second input of said weighing unit.

15. (previously presented) The system of claim 9, wherein an output of said weighingvunit being frequency domain to time domain converted and digital to analogue converted, the output signal of said conversion being operationally connected to an electrical to mechanical transducer of at least one hearing aid apparatus.

16. (new) A method for analyzing an acoustical environment comprising the steps of:

- registering acoustical signals at at least two reception locations mutually distant by a given distance and generating at least two respective first electric signals representing said acoustical signals;

- calculating electronically, from said first electric signals, at least one of the distances of sources of acoustical signals with respect to at least one of said locations, thereby generating a distance signal;

- amplitude filtering said distance signal, thereby generating a patterned distance signal; and

- weighing a signal dependent from at least one of said first signals by said patterned distance signal, thereby generating an output signal representing said acoustical signals from sources distributed in said environment within a distance pattern, wherein said calculating is performed according to the equation:

$$r_1 = \frac{|d|\rangle|S_2|\langle}{\rangle|S_1|\langle - \rangle|S_2|\langle}$$

wherein:

r_1: represents a shorter distance of the at least two distances from the at least two locations to an acoustical signal source;

$|d|$: represents a magnitude of the difference of the distances between said at least two locations and said acoustical signal source;

$\rangle|S_1|\langle$: represents a first acoustical signal as registered at said one of said at least two locations with said shorter distance from said acoustical signal source, taken its absolute value and averaged over a predetermined amount of time T; and

$\rangle|S_2|\langle$: represents a second acoustical signal as registered at the second location with a larger distance from said acoustical signal source, taken its absolute value and averaged over the predetermined amount of time T.